

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year 1915.



GEO KENT, PRINTER, STATION ROAD, BOLSOVER.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1915,
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Bolsover Urban District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting you with my Report for the Year 1915.

Natural and Social conditions of the District :

Elevation of District from 400 to 600 O.D.

Geology, upper levels on Magnesian Limestone, lower levels on coal measures.

Area, Land 4,797 acres. Water 1 acre. Total 4798 acres.

Census 1901—Population 6,844. Inhabited houses 1,272.

Census 1911—Population 11,225. Inhabited houses 2,245.

Population estimated to the middle of the year 10,700.

Inhabited houses 2,468.

New houses erected during the year 2.

Rateable value £45,509/3/2. Assessable value £39,012/6/5.

General District Rate 4/- in the £ (for the year).

The chief occupation of the inhabitants is Coal Mining.

Deaths 145, Nett Death Rate 13·55,
 Crude Death Rate 12·14,
 Births 339, Birth Rate 31·6,
 Epidemic Diseases Death Rate 2·14,
 Enteric Fever and Diarrhœa ·18,
 Phthisis ·46, Respiratory 2·7,
 Other Tuberculous Diseases ·28,
 Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births 135·6,

Sanitary Conditions of the District :

The Water Supply of the Bolsover Water Company is very satisfactory, the water is very hard, and there is practically no risk of plumbo-solvent action. No cases of lead poisoning came under my notice. There are now 1,421 houses supplied by the public supply.

These are distributed as follows :

				1915		1914
Carr Vale	...	...	...	406	...	406
Shuttlewood and Stanfree	...		...	294	...	294
Bolsover ...	...	...	...	721	...	706
				<hr/>		<hr/>
				1421	...	1406

Houses connected during the past year 15.

I went over the Water Works recently with Mr. Bemrose and was very favourably impressed. Mr. Bemrose informed me that there is abundance of water, and the Water Co. intend increasing the supply at an early date. Labour troubles have temporarily dislocated the work at the Water Works.

Drainage and Sewerage :

All the Sewage disposal works have given excellent results during 1915.

A small system of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal should be installed at Stanfree in order to abolish the present cesspools.

Closet Accommodation :

Considerable activity has been displayed by the Council in their endeavours to abolish the privy-midden system and substitute water carriage. A considerable number of owners have been served with notices to convert privy-midden into Water Closets, and proceedings are now in hand for forcing compliance under Section 36, P.H. Act.

In Old Bolsover and Carr Vale 56 privy-middens have been converted into Water Closets, and 4 additional W.C's. installed in private residences.

Nothing has yet been done with regard to the 200 privy-middens in the Model Village, but no doubt this needful work will soon be put in hand, as the Colliery Co., has promised to do the work when a sufficient supply of water is guaranteed.

Scavenging:

The Scavenging in the whole of the Urban District, except Whaley Thorns, is let by contract and costs approximately 6/- per house per annum.

The contract price for the Scavenging of Whaley and Whaley Thorns was £160, and by doing the work yourselves the cost works out at £146, thereby saving £14. Further, since you took over the scavenging in this area there has not been a single complaint.

I am of opinion that you should take over all the scavenging, and do the work yourselves by direct labour, under a responsible foreman. You will thus get better results for less expenditure.

Rigid economy at this time of national stress is essential and the Local Government Board have recently issued a strong letter on this point. Have you reckoned what the saving would be by the conversion of the privies in the New Village into W.C's. ? There are 200 privies in this portion of your district, and allowing 2/- per house for the reduction of scavenging when they are converted into W.C's., you would

save £20 per year on the scavenging of the Model Village alone. The saving on other parts of the district when like conditions obtained, would be very substantial, ignoring altogether the improvement in the health of the inhabitants which would undoubtedly accrue.

Premises and Occupations under Bye Laws and Regulations :

Number of premises 40. These are mostly new buildings and are satisfactorily kept.

Number of occupations 4. Classification of premises :— Cowsheds, Workshops, Bakehouses, and Common Lodging House.

Schools :

Sanitary condition very good, water supply public mains. The Schools are periodically disinfected irrespective of infectious disease outbreaks.

The Derbyshire County Council control the Medical Inspection of the Schools.

FOODS.—Milk Supply :

At the beginning of the year there were 10 Cowkeepers on the register who had about 90 cows.

There are no milksellers who are not cowkeepers.

Each cow has an average space of about 800 cubic feet.

No cows were condemned for tuberculosis.

Periodical inspections were made, orders given, and carried out, as to cleanliness of premises and utensils.

	No. registered.	Inspections.	Defects.	Remedied,
Cowhouses ...	10	20	0	0

All the milk sold is, as far as I know, produced in the district.

Other Foods :

Premises inspected where food is prepared and exposed for sale. During 1915 there were 36 inspections made.

One lot of Fish and two lots of Tomatoes (tinned) were voluntarily surrendered.

There were no prosecutions.

Meat is inspected in the slaughter-houses, and also in the shops.

The modern slaughter-houses are good, and the old ones specially observed for cleanliness.

Housing :

Further progress has been made with the inspection of the district under the Housing and Town Planning Act 1909.

21 houses were inspected.

1 house was dilapidated and repaired without notice.

Factories and Workshops :

36 Inspections made. No defects found.

Prevalence and control over Infectious Diseases

Infantile Mortality :

There were 46 deaths in children under 1 year old during 1915, making the rate 135·6 per 1,000 births registered. This shows a considerable increase on the rate for 1914 which was 91·9.

As you know the Notification of Births' Act is now compulsory. A welcome centre for babies has been established in the Parish Hall, and Nurse Nadin has been appointed health visitor under the Derbyshire County Council.

I am hoping for a considerable reduction in the Infantile death rate when the Statistics for 1916 come to be published.

Every possible step should be taken to safeguard the lives of infants, in view of the national crisis through which our Country is now passing.

Enteric Fever :

Only one case occurred.

Scarlatina :

123 cases were notified during 1915, and the disease was prevalent nearly all through the year. There was however only one death from this disease.

Measles :

There was a severe epidemic of Measles, and this disease caused 13 deaths. Now that Measles has been added to the list of compulsorily notifiable diseases, we hope to be able to take more effective measures for its control, and the prevention of its spread. This disease seems to visit the district at intervals of three years.

Diphtheria :

35 cases were notified during the past year. Nearly all the cases were confirmed diagnostically by bacteriological examination of throat swabs.

Erysipelas :

Fourteen cases were notified. There were no deaths from this disease.

Puerperal Fever :

Three cases were notified during 1915, and this disease caused two deaths.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis :

One case was notified from Whaley Common, but was so rapidly fatal, that an examination of fluid from the spinal canal could not be carried out.

The source of infection could not be determined, but it certainly had no connection with any military visitant to the locality.

Mumps :

This disease was epidemic during the later months of the past year, and many cases, with complications, were observed in adults.

Tables I.—IV.

See end of Report for these, together with report of the Sanitary Inspector and Factory and Workshops Report.

Prevalence and control over Tuberculosis :

Twelve cases of Tuberculosis of the lungs (Phthisis) (29 in 1914), and eight cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during 1915.

Phthisis caused 5 deaths, making a rate of '46.

Other Tuberculous diseases caused 5 deaths, making a rate of '28.

Every advantage is taken by patients to obtain treatment at the Tuberculin Dispensary, Chesterfield, and I have myself noted some remarkably good results.

The Chesterfield Sanatorium has been available during most of the past year.

Improvements affected during the year 1915 :

1. Erection of Public Convenience in the Market Place.
2. 52,144 super yards of Tar Spraying done during the year.
- 3 56 privies have been converted into W.C's., and 4 additional W.C's provided to private residences.
4. Taking over the Scavenging of the Whaley and Whaley Thorns portion of the district, with most satisfactory results both as regards efficiency and cost.

5. Public Water Supply laid on to 15 houses.
6. Provision of W.C's. and Urinal at the Common Lodging House.

Requirements :

1. Pushing on conversion of all existing privies, where practicable.
2. Special attention should be given to the paving of back-yards.
3. Provision of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal scheme for Stanfree.
4. The Scavenging of the whole district should be done by the Council's own men and horses.

I remain Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM STRATTON.



TABLE I.—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1915 and previous Years.

Name of District: **BOLSOVER URBAN.**

Year.	Population estimated to the middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Net Deaths belonging to the District.	
		Uncorrected Number	Rate.	Number	Rate	Of Non-Residents Registered in the District.	Of Residents not Registered in the District.	Number.	Rate.
								Under 1 Year	At all Ages.
1910	12000	418	34.8	117	9.75		12	131.5	129
1911	11225	389	34.9	148	13.18		13	179.9	158
1912	11225	383	34.1	110	9.7		10	127.9	120
1913	11225	380	33.8	113	10.06		16	142.1	129
1914	11225	348	31.09	106	10.33	NONE.	24	91.9	130
1915	10700	339	31.6	130	12.14		15	135.6	145

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 4798 acres.

Total population at all ages, 11,225,	} At Census,
Number of inhabited houses, 2,468,	
Average number of persons per house 5	
	1911

TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1915.

Name of District :—BOLSOVER URBAN.

Notifiable Diseases.	Number of cases Notified.							
	At Ages—Years.							
	At all ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	35	...	8	20	4	2	1	...
Erysipelas ...	14	...	...	1	2	5	5	1
Scarlet Fever...	123	2	29	82	8	2	...	...
Enteric Fever ...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ...	3	...	...	...	1	2	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ..	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	12	...	1	2	3	6	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	8	1	3	3	1	...	...	...
	197	3	41	110	19	17	6	1

Isolation Hospitals, Sanatoria, &c. :

Small-Pox Hospital at Spital, Chesterfield,

Isolation Hospitals at Langwith, Mastin Moor, and Dronfield.

Tuberculosis Dispensary, and Sanatorium at Chesterfield.

TABLE III....Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1915.

Name of District : BOLSOVER URBAN.

Cause of Death.	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards
Measles	13	3	8	1	1	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	7	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup ..	2	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	5	..	1	..	..	3	1	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculosis diseases	3	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Cancer, malignant diseases	6	..	..	..	1	..	2	2	1
Meningitis	4	1	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
Organic Heart Disease ...	9	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	3
Bronchitis	19	7	1	..	1	..	1	4	5
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	10	4	3	2	..	..	..	1	..
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ...	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Nephritis & Bright's disease	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Puerperal Fever	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth ..	13	13	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	5	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	..
Suicide	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Other Defined Diseases ...	30	5	..	1	1	..	5	4	14
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	6	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Totals	145	46	18	6	10	4	18	19	24

TABLE IV.
- - INFANT MORTALITY. - -

1915. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under
One Year of Age.

BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of Death.			Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Measles...	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	3	...	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	2	...	3	5
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	1	...	1
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	1	...	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	1	...	...		1	1	...	...	...	2
Bronchitis	...	...	...	1	1		2	1	2	2	...	7
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...		...	1	1	1	1	4
Diarrhœa	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	1	1
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...		...	...	...	...	1	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...		...	1	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	1	...	...		1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	1	...	...		1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth...	...	...	5	1	2		8	...	...	...	...	8
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	1	1	1		3	2	...	...	...	5
Other Causes	...	...	2	...	...		2	3	...	...	...	5
Totals	...	...	11	3	4		18	9	6	7	6	46

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate 339,
Illegitimate, no record.

Nett Deaths in the year { Legitimate Infants 46,
Illegitimate Infants, no record.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, — and Homework. —

1...INSPECTIONS.

Factories	4	...	0
Workshops	16	...	0
Workplaces...	16	...	0
				36	..	0

2....DEFECTS FOUND.

Want of Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	0
Want of Ventilation	...	...	...	...	0
Sanitary Accommodation	...	...	...	...	0

3...HOME WORK.

There are no Outworkers in the District to whom this
Act applies.

4...REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Number of Workshops on the Register at the end of year...20.

Jam Factories...1, Joinery...3, Blacksmith...2,
Dressmaking . 4, Boot Repairing...6, Brick Works . 1
Flour Mill...1, Printing...1, Sausage making...1

ANNUAL REPORT of SANITARY INSPECTOR

BOLSOVER URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, 1915.

NAME OF INSPECTOR—WILLIAM SCORER.

AREA OF DISTRICT—4798 ACRES.

ESTIMATED No. OF HOUSES—2468.

NEW HOUSES ERECTED 1915—2.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17	...	...	...	21
No. unfit for habitation	...	...	...	0
Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders	...	...	...	0
Closing Orders made	...	...	...	0
Number Repaired without Closing Order	...	...	...	1
Number Repaired after Closing Order made	...	...	...	0
Number Closed	...	...	...	0
Number Demolished	...	...	...	0
Number Repaired Voluntarily	...	...	...	6

DRAINAGE.

	Informal Notice served by Sanitary Inspector.	Legal Notice served by Local Authority	Nuisances Abated
No Disconnection of Waste Pipe	...	0	0
Defective Traps, Inlets, and Drains	...	5	1
Drains Obstructed	...	15	0

CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets & Ashpits	17	0	17
Additional Closet Accommodation	...	4	0
Conversion of Privies into W.C's	...	60	58
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C's	...	0	0
Defective Water Closets	...	2	2

OTHER DEFECTS,

Paving of Courts and Yards	...	0	0
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CONTINUED.

				Informal Notice served by Sanitary Inspector.	Legal Notice served by Local Authority	Nuisances Abated
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	...	...	...	0	0	0
Urinals Defective	...	...	...	0	0	0
Water Supply	...	...	...	3	3	3
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	...	1	0	1
Animals improperly kept—Pigsties	...	...	...	2	0	2
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	0	0	0
Overcrowding	...	...	...	0	0	0
Water in Cellars	...	...	...	2	0	2
Foul Condition of Houses	...	...	...	0	0	0
Nuisances not specified above	...	...	...	0	0	0
Totals	...	...	...	111	64	105

				Number on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Abated with out notice.
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops	...	...	...	10	20	0	0
Bakehouses	...	...	...	3	12	0	0
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	8	24	0	0
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	0	0	0	0
Common Lodging House	...	...	...	1	6	0	1
Totals	...	...	...	22	62	0	1

Infected Rooms Disinfected :

Number 209. Method, Formic Aldehyde.

Samples submitted for Examination : Water 3, Milk 0.

Food Voluntarily Surrendered : 3.

Signed,

WILLIAM SCORER.

